

**Electric League Code Committee  
At Tacoma Public Utilities  
Meeting Notes from 05/19/2010  
Submitted by Tom Ripple**

**Attendance:**

Linda Howell	Electric League	Arne Hales	Shaffer & Nelson
Greg Batie	Sparling	Bill Eckroth	Dept. L&I
Joe Andre	NEMA	Tam Tran	Power Systems
Tom Tomlinson	Cummins NW	Paul Ritter	Leviton
Kristyn Clayton	SBCC	Tom Ripple	Siemens Industry
Rick Allen	Snohomish PUD (via phone)	Tom Bender	Tacoma Power

**Opening:**

The meeting was opened at 7:38 AM by Vice Chairman Greg Batie and introductions were made.

**Previous Minutes:**

Minutes from the April 21, 2010 meeting were approved with the following clarifications:

- Rick ? from UL - (correction requested by Joe Andre), name corrected to **Jeffrey Fitzloff**

**Reports:**

State of Washington – Bill Eckroth

- 2 new large hospital projects are in for review. As fate would have it, an in flux of other projects hit two days later. Our reduced staffing and present project loading has pushed the queue time for review out significantly. 4 weeks has been the State's projected maximum review time and it is now a reality.
- Fee increases will be coming in the future to fund the inspectors still on staff. The department has minimum fixed costs and the fees are necessary to cover those costs.
- WAC input will not convene until after the 2011NEC is published and released.

City of Seattle – Not Present

City of Bellevue – Not Present

City of Tacoma – Tom Bender

- City of Tacoma is waiting to adopt the 2008NEC in its entirety. The proposed change must be presented to the city council 3 times before action can be taken. Presently in the process of cleaning up wording of the proposal; full adoption expected. No fee increases expected.

Puget Sound Energy – Syd France (via e-mail)

- As before, the recession and below-average gas and electric sales, partly due to warmer than average weather this winter, continue to dampen some of our normal daily business.
- Our Energy Efficiency (EE) programs are as strong as ever, largely due to participation growth and momentum built up over the past three years – plus some business customers looking to lower operating costs while weathering out the recession. Part of our work this year will be to assure we don't greatly over-produce or over-spend our budgets. Nonetheless we continue to encourage anyone with

cost-effective EE project(s) needing assistance / \$ incentives to proceed, to please call us at 1-800-562-1482. We don't want to tap the brakes so hard this year that we create participation downturns in 2011.

Seattle City Light – Not Present

Snohomish County PUD - Rick Allen (via phone)

- Recently attended Light Fair – LED lamps were predominant and the potential for energy savings are significant. The utility is reviewing products for inclusion in utility funding projects.
- One new interesting product is an integrated LED retrofit kit for T8/T12 fluorescents. This kit requires field modification of the luminaire consisting of rewiring/bypassing the ballast. Modification would likely require field re-labeling of the product. Bob Eugene from UL was not present for his input on the subject of modification and labeling. Joe Andre of NEMA expressed concerned about how/where labels would be applied, how a servicing electrician would know the luminaire had been modified, and general safety considerations.

UL – Bob Eugene – Not Present ([www.ul.com](http://www.ul.com))

IEEE - Dick Becker – Not Present (<http://www.ieee-seattle.org>)

NEMA - Joe Andre ([www.nema.org](http://www.nema.org))

- EUSERC is discussing utility requirements for renewable and alternative energy connections. Lineman safety is the key driver.
- Southern Nevada/Las Vegas region is in the process of adopting the 2008NEC; to be effective July 2011. AHJD in S. Nevada considering not accepting the sealing window on an adjustable trip circuit breaker as an effective means of securing how that breaker is applied. This type of breaker would be required to be applied at the full (100%) rating of the installed trip unit.

IAEI - Christine Porter – Not Present ([www.psiaei.com](http://www.psiaei.com))

Washington State Energy Code - Kristyn Clayton

- Come to the luncheon on June 17! Information on educational webinars offered by NEEC is available on the League website.

Electric League - Linda Howell ([www.electricleague.net](http://www.electricleague.net))

- Tomorrow's luncheon at Snohomish PUD (11:30 – 1:00) is a general discussion of the technologies involved with geothermal and tidal energy resources. Presented by Craig Collar, P.E. Senior Manager , Energy Resource Development, the presentation is titled, "Tidal and Geothermal Overview".
- Next month, Kristyn Clayton of SBCC and 3 other panelists will present "What About That Out of Control 2009 WA State Energy Code"? This discussion will be June 17 at PSE in Bellevue in the Conference Center Building Auditorium.
- June 18 is the Electric League at Safeco Field event. The Mariners play Cincinnati. Linda reports that all tickets are gone.

- August 26<sup>th</sup> is the date for the Electric League Golf Tournament at Echo Falls, Snohomish. The last 2 years sold out, so register early. Registration is available online at the Electric League website.
- Topic selection is penciled in for 2010 Fall and 2011.

#### **Old Business**

- The proposed International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) banning electric resistance heaters for residences was discussed in some detail. Most/all decided that the proposal is short sided and needs rethinking. Comments are due July 1 and Kristyn Clayton volunteered to draft an Electric League statement for members to review. A final copy will be circulated for a Code Committee vote to determine what the Electric League's comment will be to the IECC.

#### **New Business**

- Tom Ripple reported that Siemens will be presenting the SMART Grid Tour in Portland on July 14 . This is a no charge event consisting of a 3000 square foot interactive geodesic dome that conceptually presents the emerging markets of Smart Generation, Smart Transmission and Distribution, and Smart Consumption. A banner will be sent to Linda for the Electric League's homepage. Interested parties can link to the event from the banner.

**Next Meeting: June 16 at PSE, Bellevue. 7:30-9:00AM (Third Wednesday of the month)**

**Adjournment at 8:52AM**